



## State of Vermont

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Department of Environmental Conservation  
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Waste Management Division  
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September 14, 2001

Mr. Curt Utton  
Northern Auto(former Bond Auto Parts)  
P.O. Box 540  
St. Johnsbury, Vermont 05819

RE: Petroleum Contamination at Northern Auto, St. Johnsbury, Vermont (SMS Site # 2001-2904)

Dear Mr. Utton:

The Sites Management Section (SMS) has received the Underground Storage Tank (UST) closure report which outlines the subsurface conditions for the above referenced site. The fieldwork was conducted by Marin Environmental, Inc., on July 10, 2001. The report is dated July 13, 2001 and summarizes the degree and extent of contamination encountered. The USTs removed include:

- UST #1 - 2,000 gallon No. 2 fuel oil UST

During the site activities, screened soils had concentrations up to 15.5 parts per million (ppm) as measured by a photoionization detector (PID). The peak PID reading was measured at a depth of 12.0 feet below ground surface (fbgs) in the UST excavation. Approximately 1.5 cubic yards of excavated soil were stockpiled and polyencapsulated on-site. All clean soils were backfilled at the end of the UST program. Two confirmatory soil samples from the base and excavation sidewalls were laboratory analyzed for BTEX and MTBE by Method 8021B and total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPHs) by Method 8015-DRO (diesel range organics). No petroleum-related compounds targeted by the 8021B method or the 8015 method were detected above quantifiable levels in either sample. The limits of soil contamination were defined by an 'excavation to clean' process.

Site soils consisted of light brown medium fine sands with trace gravel. No groundwater or bedrock was encountered to a depth of approximately 14.0 feet in the UST excavation. No free product was observed.

The Northern Auto site was inspected for sensitive receptors. The possible receptors potentially affected include the site soils, the on-site building and sewer and utility corridors. An additional potential receptor is the Passumpsic River located approximately 600 feet east of the former UST.

Based on the report information, the SMS requests that Northern Auto retain the services of a qualified environmental consultant to perform the following:

- ☐ Develop a plan to treat and/or monitor the stockpiled soils. The soils must remain located in an area such that they have a low potential to impact nearby receptors. The soils must also remain properly encapsulated in plastic. **The plan should demonstrate that child and public access to the soils is sufficiently restricted.** If the soil pile is located in an area subject to public activity and where public access is unrestricted, the soil pile should be surrounded by fence. The fence should be no less than 3 feet in height and of durable construction.
- ☐ Submit a summary report that outlines the work performed, as well as provides conclusions and recommendations. **As appropriate** include analytical data; a site map showing the location of any potential sensitive receptors, stockpiled soils and monitoring or sample locations; an area map; detailed well logs; and a groundwater contour map.

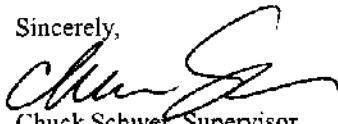
Please have your consultant submit a preliminary work plan and cost estimate within fifteen days of your receipt of this letter, so it may be approved prior to the initiation of onsite work. Enclosed please find a list of consultants who perform this type of work as well as the brochure "*Selecting Your UST Cleanup Contractor*," which will help you in choosing an environmental consultant.

Based on current information, the underground storage tank at Northern Auto is eligible for participation in the Petroleum Cleanup Fund (PCF). You must provide written proof to the SMS that you hold no other applicable insurance in order to receive reimbursement from the PCF. The owner or permittee must pay for the removal and/or repair of the failed tank(s), and for the initial \$10,000.00 of the cleanup. The fund will reimburse the tank owner or permittee for additional eligible cleanup costs of up to \$1 million. All expenditures must be pre-approved by the Agency or performed in accordance with the "*Site Investigation Guidance*" expressway program. Please refer to the enclosed guidance document titled, "*Procedures for Reimbursement from the Petroleum Cleanup Fund*" for additional information concerning the PCF.

The Secretary of the Agency of Natural Resources reserves the right to seek cost recovery of fund monies spent at Northern Auto if the Secretary concludes that Northern Auto is in significant violation of the Vermont Underground Storage Tank Regulations or the Underground Storage Tank statute (10 V.S.A., Chapter 59).

We are here to help make this process as effective and uncomplicated as possible. Please review the enclosed documents and call me with any questions you may have. I can be reached at (802) 241-3876.

Sincerely,



Chuck Schwer, Supervisor  
Sites Management Section

Enclosures (3)

cc: St. Johnsbury Selectboard w/o enclosure  
St. Johnsbury Health Officer w/o enclosure  
DEC Regional Office w/o enclosure  
Heather LaDuke, Marin Environmental, Inc. w/o enclosure

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NorthernAutoSoilonly.wpd